



NEW TESTAMENT • LESSON 7

THE WEDDING FEAST

Jesus is the Creator.



MONDAY

THE STORY: JOHN 2:1-5

Mary called to Jesus. Mary's faith and confidence in Jesus was displayed in the way she approached her son for help. Weddings in Jesus' day lasted seven days. It would be a terrible embarrassment to run out of wine. Jesus initially objected. But Mary, persistent and full of faith, simply directed the servants to do whatever Jesus said. Mary didn't tell Jesus what to do; she simply entrusted the problem to Him. In a similar way, God honors our faith in Him and our persistent prayers. Jesus honored His mother's request; by doing so He begins His supernatural ministry and reveals that He is no ordinary man.

TALK ABOUT IT:

How did Mary demonstrate faith in Jesus? (First, she came to Jesus with her need. Second, she was confident Jesus could help her. Third, she shared her confidence with others.)

How can we follow Mary's example? (Both Psalm 55:22 and 1 Peter 5:7 tell us that we can cast our cares upon the Lord. In Philippians 4:6 Paul tells us not to be anxious but to present our requests to God in prayer.)

PRAY:

Ask each family member for prayer requests, and then in faith, as a family, present those requests to God.



TUESDAY

THE STORY: JOHN 2:6-11

Jesus creates wine from water. Though Jesus initially told His mother that His time had not yet come, He decided to step out in power to honor the host, honor His mother, and give a powerful picture of His divinity. The host would not run out of wine again. Jesus created about 150 gallons of wine. Colossians 1:16 tells us that Jesus is the creator of the world, and that in Him all things were made. Jesus demonstrated His power to create by changing the water into wine. When the master of the feast tasted the wine, he was quite impressed with the quality. Wine normally takes weeks and months to be aged to perfection - that is, unless it is perfectly made!

TALK ABOUT IT :

How did Jesus turn the water into wine? (The Bible does not tell us how Jesus did it. Whether it was by a creative word or His creative will, we do not know. But we do know that it was by His power.)

How did this sign - turning the water into wine - affect the disciples? (God used this miraculous sign to touch the life of the disciples and cause them to believe that Jesus was more than an ordinary man.)

PRAY:

Thank God for His creative power that made all things and for His willingness to help us to believe.



WEDNESDAY
WHERE IS THE GOSPEL?

THE STORY: JOHN 12:23-32

In response to the need for wine, Jesus told His mother, “My hour has not yet come.” Jesus understood the hour was approaching when He would miraculously provide the wine of the new covenant, in His blood, on the cross. Jesus was already planning to offer men the wine they could not provide for themselves. But that hour had not yet come.

With a demonstration of His power, in turning the water to wine, Jesus’ ministry was about to begin. And once started, it would move ever closer to the cross. It is no accident that Jesus’ first miracle speaks powerfully of the cross and the gospel. He wanted it that way. Jesus came to offer mankind the wine of His blood for the forgiveness of sins. He came for their participation in the great wedding yet to come. The new wine was for their great joy. Mary’s talk of the need for wine, at a wedding, reminded Jesus of the wine of the new covenant. It reminded Him of His mission to call to Himself a bride without spot or blemish. Jesus knew that the hour was coming when His blood would be shed and the greater miracle of salvation would be accomplished.

TALK ABOUT IT :

What did Jesus mean by “my hour has not yet come”? (Jesus meant the hour of his death. It would be in that hour, when his blood was poured out like wine, that the Father would turn His face away and pour out His justified wrath for the sins of man upon His Son.)

Why do you think adults receive wine (or red juice) when they share communion, or the Lord’s Supper, at meetings? (The wine reminds them that Jesus provides forgiveness of sins through his blood shed on the cross. It also reminds them that they need to personally receive the cleansing that his blood alone can provide. Jesus also commanded that this be done in remembrance of him.)

PRAY:

Ask God to help you to personally receive the gift of His salvation, which Jesus miraculously provides.



THURSDAY

THE STORY: JOHN 2:12

Jesus had a family. Mary and Joseph had other children after Jesus was born. Jesus had younger brothers and sisters! One of Jesus' brothers, James, became a leader in the early church in Jerusalem. Most people attribute the Book of James to him. Joseph is notably absent in the life of Jesus at the wedding. It is likely that Joseph died at some point, leaving Mary a widow with children. Jesus, as the eldest son, would have had a special sense of care for His mother. He carried this responsibility all the way to the cross, where He charged the disciple John to care for Mary as his own mother (John 19:27).

TALK ABOUT IT:

What do you think it would have been like to be one of Jesus' brothers?

Did Jesus' brothers and mother believe in Him? (Mary, Jesus' mother, seems to have believed from the beginning. Jesus' brothers, however, at one point thought Jesus was out of His mind (Mark 3:21). After the Resurrection, Jesus' mother and brothers are found waiting along with the disciples, in constant prayer, for the promised Holy Spirit.)

PRAY:

Ask the Lord to save your whole family and fill them with His Spirit.



**FRIDAY
ON THE ROAD TO EMMAUS**

THE STORY: ISAIAH 62:11,12

Isaiah proclaimed the Savior is coming! Isaiah refers to Jesus. When He comes, the people He saves will be called “Holy People” and “Redeemed of the Lord”. It is through Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross that we are redeemed and are made holy.

TALK ABOUT IT:

How can we, a sinful people, be called holy? (Jesus lived a sinless life. We can be holy because Jesus extends His holiness and righteousness to us. We are holy only in Christ!)

Given what Jesus did for us, how should we live? (We don’t do good works to try to save ourselves, but we should do good works so as to walk in the salvation God purchased for us through His Son. When we do good works, we walk in the blessing of our righteousness in Christ.)

PRAY:

Pray and ask God that we would be as excited knowing Christ as Isaiah was in his prophecy.